Docket Number:3223.01US02

What is claimed is:

1. A kit comprising a guide element and an immobilization/fusion element wherein

the immobilization element comprising a biocompatible material with a size and shape

suitable for placement within the sacroiliac joint in contact with adjacent tissue of a

human patient and wherein the guide element comprises a sharp point for placement

within the sacroiliac joint.

2. The kit of claim 1 wherein the guide element comprises a threaded pin or an

10 unthreaded pin.

5

3. The kit of claim 1 wherein the immobilization element comprises a threaded

screw.

15 4. The kit of claim 3 wherein the screw is cannulated.

5. The kit of claim 3 wherein the screw is a self-tapping screw or has cutting threads.

6. The kit of claim 1 wherein the immobilization element is associated with a

20 biologically active agent.

7. The kit of claim 1 wherein the immobilization element is coated with the

biologically active agent.

25 8. The kit of claim 1 further comprising a cutting/drill guide having a positioning

element to orient the cutting/drill guide in position at the sacroiliac joint and an alignment

element to guide a cutting element/drill bit within the sacroiliac joint.

9. The kit of claim 1 further comprising a drill bit.

30

10. The kit of claim 1 further comprising a cannula.

17

Docket Number:3223.01US02

11. The kit of claim 1 wherein the immobilization element comprises a screw with a taper of at least about 1 degrees and appropriate dimensions for implantation into the sacroiliac joint of a human patient.

5

- 12. A screw for the immobilization of a sacroiliac joint comprising a biocompatible material with a taper of at least about 1 degrees and a dimension suitable for insertion into a sacroiliac joint of a human patient.
- 10 13. The screw of claim 12 wherein the screw comprises a biocompatible metal.
 - 14. The screw of claim 12 wherein the screw comprises a biocompatible polymer.
- 15. The screw of claim 12 wherein the taper is from about 2 degrees to about 30 degrees.
 - 16. The screw of claim 12 wherein the length is from about 4 inches to about 10 inches.
- 20 17. The screw of claim 12 wherein the widest thickness is from about 1.4 mm to about 16 mm.
 - 18. The screw of claim 12 wherein the tip comprises flutes to provide a self taping ability to the screw.

25

- 19. The screw of claim 12 wherein the threads have a sharp cutting edge.
- 20. The screw of claim 12 wherein the screw comprises a central channel.

Docket Number:3223.01US02

10

- 21. A method for immobilizing a patient's sacroiliac joint, the method comprising inserting an immobilization/fusion element into a drilled area of the sacroiliac joint through a cannula that is placed through an incision formed in the patient.
- 5 22. The method of claim 21 further comprising drilling a region at the sacroiliac joint through the cannula.
 - 23. The method of claim 21 further comprising placing a guide pin through the cannula.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the guide pin is place using real time imaging.